



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N750
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (317) 232-3166
FAX: (317) 232-0238

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
Michael B. Cline, Commissioner

July 12, 2010

Dear LPA Partner,

As many of you are aware, this is the time of year when INDOT's LPA office would issue the call for Transportation Enhancement (TE) projects. At this time we would typically be awarding TE funds for fiscal year (FY) 2014. Prior to doing so this year, with an eye towards (FY) 2014, the LPA Office has inventoried all the outstanding project awards from previous years and consulted with our financial department regarding federal funding authorizations for the TE program. After extensive discussions internally and externally, we've decided to postpone the FY 2014 TE call for projects.

There are two main reasons for this decision. First, there are a multitude of TE projects with longstanding awards but no expenditure or activity. These projects remain a financial liability and result in the program appearing to be over-programmed. Projects that have been inactive for more than three years will be identified and INDOT will make contact with the local project sponsors. Sponsors will need to demonstrate their project has a viable financial and development plan. If the project sponsor can document this plan, the project will remain in the inventory. Any project that does not have a viable financial and development plan will be removed from the active TE list. Any projects which are removed from the active list may reapply for funds under a future TE call for projects.

Secondly, the lack of a transportation funding bill from Congress beyond this calendar year puts us all in a position of guessing. And while everyone is hopeful funds will be available at traditional levels, making assumptions about future funding levels presents a layer of risk for everyone involved.

In summary, we will not add new projects to the inventory until progress is made on the outstanding inventory of projects and greater clarity is received from Congress regarding future funding levels. In the meantime, we will continue to work with currently-funded TE projects to ensure they move forward, as planned. In addition, we will also do an identical inventory assessment for the Group III, IV and Local Bridge programs and hope to complete the inventory assessments for those programs without delaying future project calls.

We expect that the assessment of stalled projects in the inventory will be complete by January, 2011 and at that time we will issue the TE call for FY 2014. Therefore, any assistance you can provide in furnishing INDOT with information regarding your TE project, or other federal-aid local project, that is not under construction would be greatly appreciated and will help to expedite the inventory assessment process. Please contact your local INDOT district office to



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furnish such information. During the January 2011 TE call for FY 2014, preference will be given to those communities that do not have an outstanding project or have worked to resolve any inventory issues.

We thank your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

Sincerely,

Audra Blasdel (formerly Butts)
INDOT Director of LPA, MPO and Grants Administration

CC:

MPO Directors
INDOT District Deputy Commissioners
Bob Zier, INDOT Chief of Staff
Mike Cline, INDOT Commissioner
Scott Stewart, Senior Policy Director, Governor's Office